



NATIONAL HUMANITIES ALLIANCE

# 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting Program



National Humanities Alliance

# Meeting Program

## Monday, March 8th, 2021

All times are listed in Eastern Time.

**12:00 - 12:15 p.m.**

### **Annual Meeting Welcome**

Join us to kick off the Annual Meeting with the launch of our new report, *Strategies for Recruiting Students to the Humanities: A Comprehensive Resource*. We will provide a brief overview of the report and the Annual Meeting's offerings on advocating for the humanities on campus, in communities, and on Capitol Hill.

Stephen Kidd, Executive Director, National Humanities Alliance; Beatrice Gurwitz, Deputy Director, National Humanities Alliance

**12:30 - 1:30 p.m.**

### **Concurrent Sessions**

#### **Defending Departments Under Review: Turning a Threat Into an Opportunity**

Learn from humanities faculty and administrators who have successfully navigated threats to humanities departments, rallied support for humanities education, and leveraged that support to launch initiatives to strengthen humanities programs.

Jill Peterfeso, Chair, Religious Studies Department, Guilford College; Stephanie Patridge, Professor of Philosophy and Coordinator Liaison to the Arts and the Humanities, Otterbein University; Jessica Starling, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Lewis & Clark College; Glenn Whitehouse, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Florida Gulf Coast University

*Facilitator:* Stephen Kidd, Executive Director, National Humanities Alliance

#### **Understanding the Impact of Humanities Programs on Community Life**

NHA's Impact Survey Toolkit provides tools to document the impact of humanities work in communities, with an emphasis on the impacts that are most compelling to federal, state, and local policymakers. Learn more about how humanities programs strengthen communities as well as new additions to the toolkit that you can use in your own work.

Cecily Hill, Director of Community Initiatives, National Humanities Alliance; Emily McDonald, Manager of Community Research, National Humanities Alliance

#### **Helping Humanities Majors Tackle a Tough Job Market from a Position of Strength**

Explore initiatives that prepare students to leverage humanities knowledge and skills to advance their careers in the context of the tough job market brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cathy Day, Professor of English and Director, Humanities Compass Initiative, Ball State University; Helene Meyers, Chair, Department of English, Southwestern University; Kirstin Wilcox, Director, Humanities and Professional Resource Center, University of Illinois

*Facilitator:* Scott Muir, Project Director, National Humanities Alliance

**1:30 - 2:00 p.m.**

### **The Hallway**

This virtual hallway seeks to re-create the spontaneous conversations we all enjoy at the Annual Meeting. Join NHA staff and colleagues old and new between sessions.

# Meeting Program

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

## Concurrent Sessions

### **Advocating for Title VI and Fulbright-Hays on Capitol Hill**

Deepen your expertise on the Department of Education's international education programs (Title VI and Fulbright-Hays) as you prepare to advocate on the Hill.

Kristen Adams, Associate Director of Federal Relations, Cornell University;  
Cynthia Williams, International Policy and Program Development Advisor, University of Wisconsin-Madison

*Facilitator:* Beatrice Gurwitz, Deputy Director, National Humanities Alliance

### **Promoting the Value of Humanities Education and Social and Racial Justice Through Place-Based Learning**

Learn how humanities-affiliated centers at three universities have illustrated the value of the humanities for promoting social and racial justice through projects exploring local histories of racial injustice.

Tracy Leavelle, Director, Kingfisher Institute for the Liberal Arts and Professions, Creighton University; Jennifer Mata, Director, Center for Mexican American Studies, Texas Lutheran University; Tila Neguse, Assistant Director, Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity, Washington University in St. Louis

*Facilitator:* Michelle May-Curry, Project Director, National Humanities Alliance

### **Attracting Prospective and Admitted Students to the Humanities**

Explore a range of strategies for reaching prospective and admitted students, including traditional first-year students and community college transfer students.

Kristen McCabe Lashua, Associate Professor of History and Chair, History and Political Science Department, Vanguard University; Kerill O'Neill, Director, Center for the Arts and Humanities and Julian D. Taylor Professor and Chair of Classics, Colby College; Daniel Widener, Associate Professor of History, University of California San Diego

*Facilitator:* Scott Muir, Project Director, National Humanities Alliance

### **COVID-19 and Independent Humanities Organizations: Impact & Response**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges for independent humanities organizations, such as museums, libraries, and archives. This session will cover how humanities organizations are responding to these challenges, as well as how they are continuing to serve their communities.

Mariel Aquino, Research Fellow, National Humanities Alliance; Cecily Hill, Director of Community Initiatives, National Humanities Alliance; Emily McDonald, Manager of Community Research, National Humanities Alliance

3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

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**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

## **Facilitated Conversations: Advocacy on Campuses, in Communities, and on Capitol Hill**

### **Navigating Funding for Independent Humanities Organizations**

This facilitated conversation will offer independent humanities organizations the opportunity to share notes and strategies on building financial support for their work. We will have time to touch base on a number of areas, including philanthropic organizations and federal, state, and local governments.

*Facilitator:* Cecily Hill, Director of Community Initiatives, National Humanities Alliance

### **Building Public Humanities Infrastructure on Campuses**

This facilitated conversation will offer humanities scholars and administrators the opportunity to share strategies on building infrastructure to support publicly engaged humanities work on higher education campuses. We will discuss a number of different types of infrastructure, including public humanities degree programs, fellowships, internships, centers/institutes, and university-wide initiatives.

*Facilitator:* Michelle May-Curry, Project Director, National Humanities Alliance

### **Broadening the Footprint of the Humanities in the Federal Government**

This facilitated conversation will explore connections between the knowledge and methodologies of humanities disciplines and federal departments and programs with the goal of articulating the need for the humanities in a range of policy areas.

*Facilitator:* Stephen Kidd, Executive Director, National Humanities Alliance

### **Promoting the Value of Studying the Humanities in the Current Moment**

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, national reckonings with racial injustice, and a political crisis, what new opportunities do you see for making the case for the value of studying the humanities as an undergraduate? How can we more effectively promote the tools of the humanities for forwarding racial justice and repairing our fractured democracy to attract more students and shore up support for humanities programs threatened by severely strained budgets?

*Facilitator:* Scott Muir, Project Director, National Humanities Alliance

**5:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

## **Virtual Welcome Reception**

Join us to connect with colleagues old and new. With the help of Zoom breakout rooms, you will have the opportunity to engage in several small group conversations. We'll offer question prompts to get you started.

# Meeting Program

## Tuesday, March 9th, 2021

All times are listed in Eastern Time.

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

### **Keynote: Kelsey Coates in Conversation with Jim Grossman**

Kelsey Coates, chief of staff at the National Endowment for the Humanities, will discuss with Jim Grossman, president of the National Humanities Alliance and executive director of the American Historical Association, the Biden-Harris administration's plans to draw on humanities disciplines to advance its central goals.

*This session is generously sponsored by The Phi Beta Kappa Society. Phi Beta Kappa Society Secretary/CEO Fred Lawrence will offer a welcome.*

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

### **Concurrent Sessions**

#### **Inclusive Recruitment: Fostering Humanities Identity and Community**

Learn about three programs funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation that engage historically underrepresented students in the humanities and promote equity and inclusion.

Denise Davidson, Professor of History and Director, Humanities Research Center, Georgia State University; Lisa Felipe, Program Director, Excellence in Pedagogy and Innovative Classrooms (EPIC), University of California, Los Angeles; Winona Wynn, Ethnic Literature/Indigenous Studies Chair and Coordinator, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Heritage University

*Facilitator:* Lena Hill, Dean of the College and Professor of English and Africana Studies, Washington and Lee University

#### **Documenting the Impact of Humanities Projects in Higher Education**

NHA partners with university-based project directors to measure and document the impact of their work. Learn more about how our impact research partnerships work, ways you can partner with us, and how to leverage your in-house resources to continue your impact research efforts.

Emily McDonald, Manager of Community Research, National Humanities Alliance; Younger Oliver, Research Associate, National Humanities Alliance

#### **Advocating for the National Archives on Capitol Hill**

Deepen your expertise on the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) as you prepare to advocate on the Hill.

Barbara Teague, Executive Director, Council of State Archivists; Lee White, Executive Director, National Coalition for History; Bryan Whitledge, Archivist and Manager for University Digital Records, Clarke Historical Library

*Facilitator:* Beatrice Gurwitz, Deputy Director, National Humanities Alliance

#### **Title VI Centers in the Community: Promoting International Education Through Local Programming**

Title VI National Resource Centers (NRCs) serve as key hubs of interdisciplinary public engagement and outreach. This session will focus on the efforts of three NRCs to partner with local and international organizations to deepen student learning and serve their communities.

Liz MacGonagle, Director, Kansas African Studies Center, University of Kansas; Marcela Vasquez-Leon, Director, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Arizona; Yu-Chuan (Mike) Shen, Outreach Coordinator, Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, University of Illinois

*Facilitator:* Stephen Kidd, Executive Director, National Humanities Alliance

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**3:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

## **Concurrent Sessions**

### **Marketing the Major: Departmental Recruitment Strategies**

Delve into a variety of strategies that humanities department chairs have honed to successfully attract more students to their disciplines.

Elizabeth Drummond, Associate Professor and Chair, History, Loyola Marymount University; Janice Hawes, Associate Professor and Chair, English and Communications, South Carolina State University; Daniel Veidlinger, Professor and Chair, Comparative Religion and Humanities, California State University, Chico

*Facilitator:* Scott Muir, Project Director, National Humanities Alliance

### **Engaging Students and Engaging Communities: Leveraging Community Partnerships in the Classroom**

This session will explore how three publicly engaged course models that leverage collaborations with community members and organizations inform students' understandings of social issues, community identity, career pathways, and civic action.

Nara Milanich, Professor of History, Barnard College; Mary Rizzo, Assistant Professor of Global Urban Studies and American Studies and Associate Director, Public and Digital Humanities Initiatives, Rutgers University; Maria Cotera, Associate Professor of Mexican American and Latino/a Studies, University of Texas at Austin

*Facilitator:* Michelle May-Curry, Project Director, National Humanities Alliance

### **Advocating for the NEH on Capitol Hill**

Learn about NHA resources that document the impact of the NEH, as well as how to make a compelling case for the NEH on Capitol Hill.

Cecily Hill, Director of Community Initiatives, National Humanities Alliance; Alexandra Klein, Communications and Government Relations Manager, National Humanities Alliance

**4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.**

## **Group Advocacy Meetings**

Join us for a quick overview of our goals for Humanities Advocacy Day followed by state group meetings in breakout rooms to help you plan for your Hill meetings. NHA staff will be available to answer any questions and offer advocacy tips. *This is an essential session for those advocating on March 10.*

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